

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MAZATL 00525 150025Z
ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 L-03 H-02 SCA-01 DHA-02 /019 W
----- 000952 /60

P R 142150Z DEC 76
FM AMCONSUL MAZATLAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0998
INFO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

UNCLAS MAZATLAN 0525

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, MX (MAISON, JAMES C. AND WIFE)

SUBJ: W/W ASSAULTS ON INTERNATIONAL HIGHWAY, JAMES C. MAISON
AND WIFE.

REF: MAZATLAN'S 314, 421, 423

1. ON DECEMBER 13 CONSULATE RECEIVED TELEPHONE CALL FROM MAISON ENROUTE FROM OAXACA TO U.S., WHO REPORTED THAT HE AND WIFE HAD REGISTERED AT CAMINO REAL, TRES RIOS, IN CULIACAN ON EVENING DECEMBER 12 AND HAD LEFT ORDER WITH DESK TO BE AWAKENED AT FIVE A.M. FOLLOWING MORNING. DURING NIGHT TELEPHONE RANG, THINKING IT WAS DESK AWAKENING THEM. MAISON AND WIFE PROCEEDED TO THEIR 1974 MERCEDES BENZ VEHICLE. THEY CHECKED THEIR WATCHES AND NOTED THAT THEY READ TWELVE O'CLOCK. THINKING WATCHES HAD STOPPED

MAISON AND WIFE DEPARTED AS PLANNED.

2. A FEW KILOMETERS DOWN THE INTERNATIONAL HIGHWAY, MAISON'S VEHICLE WAS INTERCEPTED BY TWO YOUTHS ARMED WITH MACHINE GUNS. YOUTHS ROBBED MAISON'S OF VEHICLE AND PERSONAL BELONGINGS VALUED AT TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS, AND LEFT THEM STRANDED ON HIWAY.

3. MAISON BELIEVES CRIME WAS INSIDE JOB PERPETRATED AT HOTEL.

4. ALL POLICE AGENCIES IN CULIACAN HAVE BEEN FULLY INFORMED, AND CONCERTED HUNT IS ON FOR VEHICLE.

5. MAISON AND WIFE WILL REMAIN IN HOME OF CONSULATE CONTACT CULIACAN FOR FEW DAYS AWAITING RESULTS POLICE SEARCH.

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6. CONSUL WAS ADVISED DECEMBER 12 BY RELIABLE CULIACAN SOURCE

THAT SINALOA GOVERNOR RECENTLY VISITED NEW ATTORNEY GENERAL IN
MEXICO CITY AND IMPLORED HIM ASSIST CULIACAN AUTHORITIES IN
COMBATTING OUT OF HAND CRIME WAVE. SOURCE SAID ATTORNEY GENERAL
PROMISED COOPERATE FULLEST.
MATTHEWS

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